

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/764,707

Examiner

Michael P. Ferguson

Applicant(s)

WILLIAMS, DAVE

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 18 September 2006 amendment, 27 November 2006 interview.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4 and 7-13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/648,405.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 11/27/06.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Flemming Saether
Primary Examiner

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Karl L. Larson on November 27, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, in line 1 after "A screwless apparatus" deleted "for attaching a computer drive to a computer chassis".

In claim 1, in line 3 after "an outer surface of" deleted "the" and replaced with --a--.

In claim 1, in line 6, after "the mounting clip and" deleted "the" and replaced with --a--.

In claim 1, in line 9 after "a screw hole of the computer drive" inserted -- , when the computer drive is selectively attached to an interior portion of the computer chassis--.

In claim 4, in line 1 after "A screwless apparatus" deleted "for attaching a computer drive to a computer chassis".

In claim 4, in line 4 after "an outer surface of" deleted "the" and replaced with --a--.

In claim 4, in line 7 after "standardized screw holes on" deleted "the computer

Art Unit: 3679

drive" and replaced with – a computer drive, when the computer drive is selectively attached to an interior portion of the computer chassis--.

In claim 9, in line 1 after "A method for" deleted "assembling" and replaced with --selectively attaching--.

In claim 9, in line 1 after "a computer drive to" inserted --an interior portion of--.

In claim 9, in line 4 after "hole on the computer chassis; " deleted "and".

In claim 9, after line 4 inserted --selectively engaging the securing pin in a screw hole of the computer drive, when the computer drive is selectively attached to the interior portion; and--.

In claim 13, in line 1 after "A screwless apparatus" deleted "for attaching a computer drive to a computer chassis".

In claim 13, in line 3 after "an outer surface of" deleted "the" and replaced with --a--.

In claim 13, in line 6, after "the mounting clip and" deleted "the" and replaced with --a--.

In claim 13, in line 9 after "a screw hole of the computer drive" inserted -- , when the computer drive is selectively attached to an interior portion of the computer chassis--.

In claim 13, in line 11 after "of the mounting" deleted "clip" and replaced with --portion--.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Art Unit: 3679

As to claims 1,4 and 13, Webster, Jr. et al. (US 6,227,516) disclose the claimed screwless apparatus with the exception of comprising a mounting clip coupled to an outer surface of the computer chassis and having one or more flexible tabs projecting outwardly from the outer surface; and a securing clip detachably couple to the mount clip, the securing clip having one or more flexible tabs configured for selective engagement with the one or more flexible tabs of the mounting clip.

As to claim 9, Webster, Jr. et al. disclose the claimed method with the exception of comprising positioning a securing clip, the securing clip having a securing pin and one or more flexible tabs, through a pin alignment hole on the computer chassis; and selectively engaging the one or more flexible tabs with one or more flexible tabs on a mounting clip, wherein the mounting clip is affixed to an outer surface of the computer chassis, and the securing clip is detachably coupled to the mounting clip, the one or more flexible tabs on the mounting clip projecting outwardly from the outer surface.

There is no teaching or suggestion, absent the applicants' own disclosure, for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the screwless apparatus as disclosed by Webster, Jr. et al. to have the above mentioned elemental features.

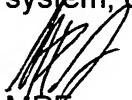
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

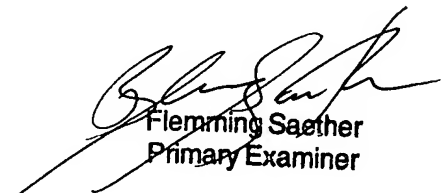
Art Unit: 3679

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P. Ferguson whose telephone number is (571)272-7081. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571)272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


MPF
11/27/06


Flemming Sæther
Primary Examiner